

*Pre Amdt 9/1a**J. Ellis  
9-3-03*

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Qiming CHEN et al.	§	Confirmation No.:	5742
Serial No.:	09/524,140	§	Group Art Unit:	3623
Filed:	03/10/2000	§	Examiner:	E.T. Shaffer
For:	Distributed OLAP-Based Association Rule Generation Method And System	§	Docket No.:	10991147-1

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: August 26, 2003

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action of March 26, 2003, please enter this Preliminary Amendment and associated Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10 of this paper.